translating digital communications in said first protocol provided at said first group of terminals into digital communications in a second protocol at a second group of terminals through said translation circuitry; and

translating digital communications in said second protocol provided at said second group of terminals into digital communications in said first protocol at said first group of terminals through said translation circuitry.

54. (new)   A method for plug-and-play compatibility as recited in claim 53, wherein enabling said first protocol driver includes selecting said first protocol driver from a collection of drivers stored in a memory coupled to said translation circuitry.

55. (new)   A method for plug-and-play compatibility as recited in claim 53, wherein enabling said first protocol driver includes downloading said first protocol driver through said first group of terminals to a memory coupled to said translation circuitry.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment A is submitted to place the claims in a form for first examination by the Examiner. Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable over the known prior art, and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

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Respectfully submitted,
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